SCHIFF HARDIN LLP

48 28 EN

PATENT DEPARTMENT

6600 SEARS TOWER

233 SOUTH WACKER DRIVE

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60606

H0001129-1632 (P02,0134) CONF. NO.: 2636

Berial No.:

Bruce A. Seiber

GROUP ART UNIT: 2828

Filed:

May 24, 2001

09/864,990

EXAMINER: Phillip Nguyen

For:

ARRANGEMENTS FOR INCREASING SPUTTER LIFE IN GAS DISCHARGE TUBES

RESPONSE TO JANUARY 7, 2005 OFFICE ACTION

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 SIR:

application of:

Transmitted herewith is an amendment in the above-identified application.

The fee has been calculated as shown below.

	(2) CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT		(4) HIGHEST NO. PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	(5) PRESENT EXTRA	(6) RATE	(7) ADDITIONA FEE
TOTAL CLAIMS	*26	MINUS	26		() X 25.00 () X 50.00	\$.00
INDEP. CLAIMS	* 3	MINUS	3	X 0	() X 100.00 () X 200.00	\$.00
Application amended to contain any multiple dependent claims not previously paid for.				(') YES	()\$150.00 ()\$300.00 ONE TIME	\$.00
not previously	y paid ior.		TOTAL ADDITIONA FOR THIS AMENDM	L FEE	TIME	\$.00 \$.00

If the entry in Column 2 is less than the entry in Column 5.

If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 20 write "20" in this space.

Applicants petition the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks to extend this time for response to the Office Action dated _____ for ___ months so that the period for response is extended to _____ A check in the amount of \$_____ is attached to cover the cost of the extension. Any deficiency or overpayment should be charged or credited to deposit account No. 501519. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

A check in the amount of \$____ are attached.

A check for \$____ accompanying IDS under 37 CFR 1.97(c) is attached

A check for \$____ and Petition for Consideration of IDS under 37 CFR 1.97(d) is attached.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or to credit any overpayment to account No. 501519. A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed.

When phoning re this application, please call (312) 258-5774.

SCHIFF HARDIN LLP (Customer Number: 000128)

BY

(25,542)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on March 24, 2005.

Pevor B. Joike

NAME OF APPLICANT'S ATTORNEY

March 24, 2005

N THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: B. A. Seiber

Serial No.: 09/864,990

For: ARRANGEMENTS FOR INCREASING SPUTTER LIFE IN GAS DISCHARGE TUBES

Filed: May 24, 2001

Group Art Unit: 2828

Examiner: P. Nguyen

Confirmation No.: 2636

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on this date:

March 24, 2005

Trever B. Joike

Reg. No. 25,542 Attorney for Applicants

RESPONSE TO JANUARY 7, 2005 OFFICE ACTION

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTION

Claims 1-26 remain in the application. Claims 15-26 are allowed. Claims 3-7 and 10-14 are objected to as being dependent on a rejected claim but are otherwise considered to be allowable. Claims 1, 2, 8, and 9 are rejected.